

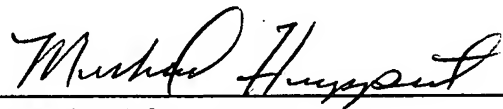
**REMARKS**

The present Preliminary Amendment is submitted in order to correct an obvious typographical error in the specification. No new matter has been added.

A copy of the amended portion of the specification with changes marked therein is attached and entitled "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made."

Respectfully submitted,

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which is included in the encryption function unit 1053.

*Doc  
Adm  
4-30-02* (2) The decryption function unit <sup>2022</sup>[2210] receives the encrypted connected information  $E(F(m, Ra), Kp, r)$  from the receiving unit 201, and reads out the decryption key  $Ks$  from the decryption  
5 key storage 2021.

*Doc  
Adm  
4-30-02* (6) Next, the decryption function unit <sup>2022</sup>[2210], using the read decryption key  $Ks$ , decrypts the received encrypted connected information  $E(F(m, Ra), Kp, r)$  according to the decryption algorithm, so as to generate a decrypted connected information  
10  $D(E(F(m, Ra), Kp, r), Ks)$ , and outputs the decrypted connected information to the information removing unit 2250.

(3) The information removing unit 203

The information removing unit 203 stores a bit length  $rLen$  in advance.

15 The information removing unit 203 receives the decrypted connected information  $D(E(F(m, Ra), Kp, r), Ks)$  from the decrypting unit 202, and removes the additional information  $Ra$  from the decrypted connected information, by removing a bit row of the  $rLen$  bit length from the end of the received decrypted  
20 connected information  $D(E(F(m, Ra), Kp, r), Ks)$ , generates decrypted text from the remaining information after the additional information  $Ra$  is removed from the decrypted connected information, and outputs the generated decrypted text  $m'$  to the one-way operation unit 204. The information removing  
25 unit 203 also writes the generated decrypted text  $m'$  on the